

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EWT, RO

SUBJECT: DRAFT AGENDA FOR FOURTH SESSION OF JOINT ECONOMIC
COMMISSION

REFS: (A) BUCH 5811 (B) STATE 186153 (C) BUCH 6081 (D)
BUCH 6201 (E) USDOC 15729 (F) STATE 201371

1. BEWT APPRECIATES COMPREHENSIVE REVISION OF DRAFT AGENDA
PER REF (C) WHICH WAS USED AS MAJOR POINT OF DISCUSSION AT
AUGUST 16 INTERAGENCY MEETING FOR PLANNING OF SUBJECT
COMMISSION.

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PAGE 02 STATE 203351

2. BEWT AND INTERAGENCY GROUP CONCUR WITH EMBASSY'S RE-
ORDERING OF AGENDA ITEMS AND HEADINGS AND WITH SOME
MODIFICATION AGREE WITH SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
AGENDA TOPICS.

3. REVISED AGENDA, WITH COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS, IS AS
FOLLOWS:

I. DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE RELATIONS

A. ROMANIAN LONG-TERM TRADE STRATEGY

1. ROMANIAN POLICY TOWARDS HARD CURRENCY TRADE

2. POTENTIAL FOR CHANGE IN COMMODITY STRUCTURE OF
BILATERAL TRADE

COMMENT: WE FELT DISCUSSION OF ROMANIAN LONG-TERM TRADE STRATEGY WAS APPROPRIATE STARTING POINT FOR THIS HEADING AND WOULD LEAD EASILY INTO OTHER TOPICS THAT FOLLOW. ALSO, IT WAS ONE OF MAJOR IDEAS FOR COMMISSION DISCUSSION TOPICS MENTIONED BY DAS REICH TO MARGARITESCU PER REF (A). WE WOULD EXPECT A ROMANIAN PRESENTATION ON TOPIC A.1. TO INCLUDE EXPLANATION OF GOR TRADE STRATEGY WITH OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES AND JAPAN. WE ALSO HOPE TO RECEIVE GOR EXPLANATION OF HOW TRADE WITH WEST IS EXPECTED TO COMPARE OVER NEXT TEN YEAR PERIOD WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRY AND LDC TRADE. TOPIC A.2. WOULD BE PRESENTATION BY BOTH SIDES ON OUTLOOK FOR RESTRUCTURING BILATERAL TRADE, WITH STRONG EMPHASIS ON NEED TO DIVERSIFY TRADE IF WE ARE TO REACH 1980 GOAL OF 1 BILLION DOLLARS. YOU WILL NOTE THAT WE CONCUR IN DROPPING IMPORT RESTRAINT ITEM FROM AGENDA. WE FULLY EXPECT GOR TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PAGE 03 STATE 203351

PROPOSE IT IN ITS DRAFT AGENDA AND IN RESPONSE WE ARE WILLING TO LISTEN TO NOW FAMILIAR GOR COMPLAINT ABOUT IMPORT RESTRAINTS AS OBSTACLE TO CHANGE IN COMMODITY STRUCTURE OF OUR TRADE. HOWEVER, WE WILL RESIST GOR EFFORTS TO HIGHLIGHT THIS AS AGENDA TOPIC. OUR FEELING IS THAT WE HAVE EXPLAINED USG DUMPING, COUNTERVAILING DUTY AND MARKET DISRUPTION LAWS AND PRACTICES AND TEXTILE RESTRAINT MECHANISMS ENOUGH TIMES NOW TO ROMANIANS FOR THEM TO FULLY COMPREHEND THESE LAWS AND PRACTICES AND THEIR OPERATION WITHIN OUR SYSTEM. FURTHERMORE, IF GOR PUSHES IMPORT RESTRAINT ISSUE, WE WILL BE PREPARED TO RAISE AND DISCUSS ROMANIAN IMPORT LICENSING REQUIREMENTS AS AN OBSTACLE TO TRADE.

B. RENEWAL OF U.S.-ROMANIAN TRADE AGREEMENT

1. PROCEDURES REQUIRED FOR RENEWAL

2. MTN RECIPROCITY

COMMENT: WE SHARE EMBASSY VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE TO OUR TRADE RELATIONS AND THAT IT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED AT COMMISSION SESSION. SECRETARY KREPS HAS BEEN INFORMED OF AMBASSADOR'S WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING WAIVER EXTENSION BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE AT STATE, COMMERCE OR

TREASURY TO DATE. WE HOPE TO HAVE DEVELOPED POSITION
BY TIME OF COMMISSION. WE HAVE WORDED THE HEADING FOR
ITEM B MORE BROADLY -- IN TERMS OF RENEWAL OF TRADE
AGREEMENT -- RATHER THAN JUST FOCUSING ON WAIVER
EXTENSION. SINCE ENTIRE AGREEMENT MUST BE RENEWED WE
PREFER THIS WIDER APPROACH WITH ATTENTION FOCUSED
INITIALLY ON RENEWAL OF TRADE AGREEMENT RATHER THAN
WAIVER EXTENSION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR TRADE ACT
PROVISIONS. ISSUE OF WAIVER EXTENSION WOULD THUS COME
UP UNDER TOPIC I.B.1. SECOND TOPIC ON MTN IS IMPORTANT
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PAGE 04 STATE 203351

BECAUSE OF REQUIREMENT FOR RECIPROCITY ON MTN UNDER THE
TRADE ACT IN ORDER TO RENEW TRADE AGREEMENT.

C. U.S. EXPORT LICENSING: POLICY AND PRACTICE

COMMENT: WE ANTICIPATE USG PRESENTATION ON RECENT
LEGISLATIVE CHANGES REGARDING EXPORT ADMINISTRATION AND
OUR LICENSING POLICY TOWARDS ROMANIA. UNLIKE LAST YEAR
COMMERCE DOES NOT INTEND TO PRESENT STATUS REPORT LIST
OF CASES AT COMMISSION OR TO REVIEW INDIVIDUAL CASES
WITH GOR DELEGATION DURING COMMISSION WORKING GROUPS.
RATHER, WE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE SEPARATE MEETING BETWEEN
COMMERCE AND GOR OFFICIALS ALONG THE LINES OF MEETING
HELD BETWEEN DAS MARCUSS AND MFT OFFICIAL FOTA AT TIME
OF ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETING. ON BASIS OF LIST OF CASES
SUPPLIED BY GOR IN ADVANCE, COMMERCE/OEA WOULD ORALLY
REPORT ON THEIR STATUS. THIS APPROACH, WE FEEL, WOULD
BE FULLY RESPONSIVE TO ROMANIAN NEEDS AND AT THE SAME
TIME AVOID A COMPREHENSIVE STATUS REPORT WITHIN THE
COMMISSION CONTEXT, SOMETHING WHICH WAS OPPOSED BY THE
PRESIDENTS EXPORT COUNCIL EARLIER THIS YEAR.

D. FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. EXIMBANK FINANCING

2. CCC CREDITS

3. LINES OF CREDIT AVAILABLE TO ROMANIA

COMMENT: WE PERCEIVE TOPICS D.1. AND D.2. AS BEING
U.S. PRESENTATIONS OF APPROPRIATE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON NEED FOR SPECIFIC AGRICULTURAL
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PAGE 05 STATE 203351

DATA BEFORE GOING FORWARD WITH CCC CREDIT REQUESTS. IN

TOPIC D.3. WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR ROMANIAN EXPLANATION OF OTHER SOURCES OF CREDIT AVAILABLE TO GOR, SUCH AS IBRD FINANCING, PRIVATE FINANCING AND OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTAL SOURCES. EXIMBANK WOULD FIND SUCH INFORMATION VERY USEFUL IN SEEKING TO IMPLEMENT ITS PROGRAMS.

E. ROMANIAN COUNTER-TRADE AND BUY-BACK POLICY

COMMENT: WE SHARE YOUR VIEW THAT THIS TOPIC WILL PLAY AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT PART IN FUTURE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. FIRMS. OUR ONLY QUESTION WAS WHETHER IN VIEW OF ELUSIVE ROMANIAN DEFINITION OF COOPERATION GOR MIGHT NOT SEE THIS FITTING BETTER UNDER HEADING "DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION ACTIVITIES." IN ANY CASE, WE WILL PUT IT ON TRADE SIDE TO START AND SEE WHAT ROMANIANS DO.

F. DECREE 223 AND PROPERTY CLAIMS: EFFECT ON GSP

COMMENT: WE CONCUR THAT IT IS TIME TO BRING THIS ISSUE OUT IN THE OPEN AT COMMISSION ALTHOUGH WE WOULD ANTICIPATE ROMANIAN ATTEMPT TO DISCUSS IT AGAIN AT KREPS -- PATAN LEVEL, IF AT ALL. WE VIEW SOME ACTION ON THIS PROBLEM AS ONE OF THE IMPORTANT THINGS U.S. SIDE WILL WANT TO GET OUT OF THIS COMMISSION SESSION.

6. PROMOTION OF U.S.-ROMANIAN TRADE

COMMENT: WE WOULD PREFER TO RETAIN THIS TOPIC. WHILE IN THE PAST THIS HAS BEEN A BLAND RECITATION BY BOTH SIDES OF THEIR UPCOMING TRADE PROMOTION ACTIVITIES, WE WOULD LIKE TO CONFRONT GOR WITH GENERALLY POOR RESULTS STEMMING FROM OUR TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAMS FOR ROMANIA AND SEEK A GOOD DISCUSSION ON HOW TO IMPROVE THESE PROGRAMS.

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PAGE 06 STATE 203351

II. DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

A. ROMANIAN CONCEPTS OF COOPERATION

1. LICENSING

2. JOINT VENTURES

3. PROJECTS IN THIRD COUNTRIES

4. OTHER FEASIBLE FORMS OF COOPERATION

COMMENT: WE WOULD EXPECT PRIMARILY GOR PRESENTATION HERE INVOLVING STATUS REPORT OF ROMANIAN COOPERATION ACTIVITY

WITH FOREIGN FIRMS IN LICENSING, JOINT VENTURES AND THIRD COUNTRY PROJECTS. IN ADDITION, WE WOULD LIKE TO ARRIVE AT SOME SORT OF CONSENSUS WITH ROMANIANS ON A DEFINITION OF COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR FIRMS AND COMPANIES. IN VIEW OF EMBASSY COMMENTS PER REF (D) WE WOULD HOPE FOR DETAILED ROMANIAN PRESENTATION ON THESE TOPICS.

B. PAST DEVELOPMENTS AND PROBLEMS IN U.S.-ROMANIAN COOPERATION

COMMENT: WHILE WE BELIEVE EMBASSY'S APPROACH TO "POSSIBLE COOPERATION PROJECTS" TOPIC IS MORE EFFECTIVE WAY OF DEALING WITH INDUSTRIAL SECTORS (SEE BELOW) THAN OUR INITIAL APPROACH IN PARA 2.I.A. REF (B), WE SEE INCLUSION OF A "PAST DEVELOPMENTS AND PROBLEMS" ISSUE AS NEEDED. DISCUSSION OF ACTUAL PROJECTS UNDER NEGOTIATION OR ABOUT TO BE NEGOTIATED WOULD NOT DEAL WITH GENERALLY UNIMPRESSIVE HISTORY OF U.S.-ROMANIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PAGE 07 STATE 203351

COOPERATION ACTIVITIES AND REASONS FOR SUCH A POOR RECORD. WE WOULD LIKE TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO FRANKLY TELL GOR OFFICIALS WHY, IN OUR VIEW, WE HAVE NOT ACHIEVED BETTER RESULTS IN COOPERATION WITH THEIR COMPANIES, AND IN TURN WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR THEIR VIEWS ON THIS LACK OF SUCCESS.

C. POSSIBLE COOPERATION PROJECTS

1. OFFSHORE OIL & GAS
2. NAVODARI PETROCHEMICAL PROJECT
3. CALARASI STEEL MILL
4. MOLDOVA - NOUA AND ROSIA POIENI COPPER MINING PROJECTS
5. HEAVY TRUCKS AND HIGH HORSEPOWER AGRICULTURAL TRACTORS
6. HELICOPTER PRODUCTION
7. OTHER PROJECTS

COMMENT: WE PREFER REFERRING TO OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS COOPERATION RATHER THAN ENERGY SINCE WE WISH TO AVOID SPECIFIC DISCUSSION OF NUCLEAR ISSUE WITHIN COMMISSION ITSELF. WE FEEL DPM PATAN WILL HAVE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE DURING HIS MEETING WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS. REGARDING HELICOPTERS WE ARE UNCERTAIN WHETHER THIS IS A COOPERATION PROJECT AND WHETHER IT SHOULD BE INCLUDED AS AGENDA ITEM. IN ANSWERING REF (E) WE WOULD

APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS AS TO ITS INCLUSION ON AGENDA.
WE HAVE DROPPED COMPUTER-INTEGRATED CIRCUIT ITEM BECAUSE
THESE DO NOT APPEAR TO US TO BE COOPERATION ACTIVITIES.
WE RECOGNIZE IMPORTANCE OF THIS AREA TO GOR IN DEVELOP-
MENT OF U.S.-ROMANIAN TRADE AND WOULD EXPECT DISCUSSION
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PAGE 08 STATE 203351

OF ELECTRONICS (INCLUDING COMPUTERS AND INTEGRATED
CIRCUITS) AND HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED MACHINETOOLS
TO OCCUR AS PART OF ROMANIAN LONG TERM TRADE STRATEGY
IN I.A.2., UNDER EXPORT LICENSING TOPIC IN I.C., AND
IN DISCUSSION OF ELECTRONICS JOINT CONSULTATIVE WORKING
GROUP IN II.D.1. (SEE BELOW). REGARDING PROJECTS LISTED
BY EMBASSY, WE ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT NAVODARI BUT WILL
BE SEEKING EMBASSY ASSISTANCE BY SEPARATE CABLE ON
CALARASI STEEL MILL, MOLDOVA-NOUA AND ROSIA POIENI COPPER
MINING PROJECTS, AND TRUCK AND AGRICULTURAL TRACTORS
PROJECTS. WE GENERALLY VIEW ITEM1-6 AS OPPORTUNITY
FOR GOR TO GIVE CURRENT STATUS OF THESE PROJECTS AND
EXPLAIN POTENTIAL FOR U.S. COMPANY INVOLVEMENT.
WE WOULD EXPECT TO RESPOND WITH WAYS IN WHICH USG CAN
STIMULATE INTEREST OF U.S. FIRMS IN SUCH PROJECTS.
FINAL ITEM, "OTHER PROJECTS", WE VIEW AS INCLUDING NOT
ONLY OTHER ACTUAL PROJECTS UNDER NEGOTIATION OR SOON
TO BE NEGOTIATED BUT ALSO FUTURE PROJECTS IN WHICH
WE HOPE THE GOR WILL BE LOOKING TO U.S. FIRMS
FOR COOPERATION. AGAIN WE WILL BE PREPARED TO SHOW
WAYS IN WHICH USG CAN STIMULATE INTEREST OF U.S. FIRMS.

D. ROLE OF JOINT CONSULTATIVE WORKING GROUPS AND
GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT WORKING GROUPS

1. ELECTRONICS

2. THIRD COUNTRY COOPERATION

3. AGRICULTURE

COMMENT: REF (C) LISTED ONLY ELECTRONICS AND AGRICULTURE
AS ITEMS 1 AND 3 THEREBY LEADING US TO BELIEVE THIRD
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PAGE 09 STATE 203351

COUNTRY COOPERATION WAS LOST IN TRANSMISSION. WE WOULD
PREFER KEEPING DISCUSSION OF THIRD COUNTRY COOPERATION
JOINT CONSULTATIVE WORKING GROUP SEPARATE FROM DISCUSSION
OF THIRD COUNTRY COOPERATION UNDER II. A.3. IN ORDER TO
LET GOR KNOW AGAIN FOR THE UMPTEENTH TIME THAT BASIS FOR
ESTABLISHING THIS WORKING GROUP MUST BE SUFFICIENTLY

DETAILED PROPOSAL AND INFORMATION FROM ROMANIAN SIDE. WE WILL BE ADDRESSING THIS SUBJECT SHORTLY BY SEPARATE CABLE.

III. BUSINESS FACILITATION

A. EXCHANGE OF ECONOMIC INFORMATION

1. ROMANIAN LEGAL LIMITATIONS ON DATA AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE

2. DATA AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE

COMMENT: WITH SEVERAL SMALL CHANGES AND ADDITIONS WE SHARE EMBASSY VIEWS HERE AND WE SEE TOPIC OF BUSINESS FACILITATION AS ONE ON WHICH WE CAN AND SHOULD PRESS GOR FOR IMPROVEMENT AND RESPONSIVENESS. WE WOULD PREFER USING "ROMANIAN LEGAL LIMITATIONS" RATHER THAN DIRECTLY REFERRING TO GOR STATE SECRETS LAW SO AS NOT TO PROVOKE IMMEDIATE NEGATIVE REACTION BY GOR. ALSO, WE HAVE DEFINED EXCHANGE OF ECONOMIC INFORMATION TO INCLUDE BOTH DATA AND INFORMATION SO AS TO BE AS BROADLY FOCUSED AS POSSIBLE. UNDER ITEM A.2. WE WILL BE PREPARED TO GIVE THE ROMANIANS A LIST OF THE KINDS OF ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL DATA AND INFORMATION THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE PUBLISHED. WE WILL BE LOOKING TO EMBASSY FOR GUIDANCE ON MUCH OF THIS TOPIC, PARTICULARLY ON OPERATION OF STATE SECRETS LAW.

B. BUCHAREST INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER

COMMENT: WE ARE LOOKING FOR GOR EXPLANATION OF AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PAGE 10 STATE 203351

STATUS REPORT ON THE TRADE CENTER AND HOW ITS ESTABLISHMENT WILL AFFECT U.S. FIRMS, INCLUDING COSTS, SERVICES AND THE ABILITY OF FOREIGN FIRMS TO OPERATE COMMERCIAL

REPRESENTATION OUTSIDE THE TRADE CENTER. AGAIN, WE WILL BE LOOKING TO EMBASSY FOR GUIDANCE ON THIS TOPIC.

C. BUSINESS PRACTICES AND FACILITIES

1. FACILITIES AND SERVICES OFFERED FOREIGN COMMERCIAL PERSONNEL AND CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATION

2. ROMANIAN PERSONNEL WORKING FOR FOREIGN FIRMS

3. ACCESS TO END USERS

4. NEGOTIATION OF COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS

A. NEED TO ACCELERATE NEGOTIATIONS

B. NEED FOR INTERIM COMMUNICATIONS

C. AVAILABILITY OF TEMPORARY OFFICES AND PERSONNEL IN
BUCHAREST

5. CONTRACT FULFILLMENT

COMMENT: WE HAVE RETAINED ITEM C.1. REGARDING FACILITIES
AND SERVICES. DESPITE IMPROVEMENTS SEEN IN RECENT YEARS,
BUCHAREST, AS WE ALL KNOW, REMAINS A DIFFICULT AND
FRUSTRATING PLACE FOR A TEMPORARILY RESIDENT U.S. BUSINESS-
MEN TO LIVE AND WORK. WE FEEL WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS
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PAGE 11 STATE 203351

FOR IMPROVED HOUSING FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR AMERICAN
BUSINESSMEN RATHER THAN SIMPLY ACCEPT THAT DELAYS, LACK
OF SERVICES, ETC. ARE PART OF THE SYSTEM. WE ALSO FEEL
THAT IF WE ARE TO PUSH FOR ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO
ESTABLISHING COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATION (I.E. OTHER THAN IN
THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER), WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO
DISCUSS ISSUES RELEVANT TO OPENING AND OPERATING AN OFFICE
(I.E. COSTS, OFFICE SPACE, SERVICES) AS ITEM SEPARATE
FROM THE TRADE CENTER. WE HAVE ALSO RETAINED ITEM C.3.
REGARDING ACCESS TO END USERS. WHILE SITUATION HAS
IMPROVED IN RECENT YEARS AND WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC
COMPLAINTS TO REGISTER ON BEHALF OF U.S. FIRMS, WE SHOULD
CONTINUE TO PRESS THE GOR TO MAKE ITS COMMERCIAL SYSTEM
AND WAY OF DOING BUSINESS MORE OPEN AND RESPONSIVE TO
INTERESTED AMERICAN FIRMS. WE PROPOSE TO EXPLAIN HOW
ROMANIAN ECONOMIC ENTITIES CAN DIRECTLY CONTACT AND
APPROACH U.S. COMPANIES AND TO ASK WHY ROMANIAN SYSTEM
CANNOT DEVELOP SIMILAR ACCESS LINES. SINCE THE
ROMANIANS ARE

NOT SHY ABOUT ASKING US TO CHANGE OUR LAWS AND REGULATIONS
TO ACCOMMODATE THEM, WE INTEND TO RECIPROCATATE IN THE HOPE
THAT OVER THE LONGER TERM PRODDING OF THIS KIND MAY PRO-
DUCE SOME BENEFICIAL CHANGES. IN PARTICULAR, WE DO NOT
FEEL THAT LACK OF SPECIFIC EXAMPLES SHOULD PRECLUDE US
FROM RAISING THIS AS AGENDA ITEM. REGARDING COMMERCIAL
NEGOTIATIONS WE HAVE ADDED ITEM ON ACCELERATED NEGOTIA-
TIONS. BY HAVING ONLY ITEM C.4.B. REGARDING INTERIM
COMMUNICATIONS, WE SEEM TO ACCEPT FACT THAT NEGOTIATIONS
WILL BE LONG. PROBABLY LOUDEST, MOST OFTEN HEARD
COMPLAINT BY U.S. BUSINESS THAT WE HEAR IS EXCESSIVELY
LONG TIME FOR COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS. WE SEEK AGAIN TO
DRIVE THIS POINT HOME. FINALLY, WE WILL BE LOOKING TO
EMBASSY FOR ELABORATION ON ITEM C.4.C. REGARDING TEMPORARY
OFFICES AND PERSONNEL.

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PAGE 12 STATE 203351

D. MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS

COMMENT: WE PERCEIVE THIS AS A STATUS REPORT BY BOTH
SIDES ON THE MULTIPLE ENTRY VISA ISSUE.

4. THIS REPRESENTS DEPARTURE FROM APPROACH WHICH WE OUT-
LINED IN PARA 2 REF (F). SECOND INTERAGENCY MEETING STILL
SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 29. HOWEVER, COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR
FODOR'S ANNOUNCED DEPARTURE FOR BUCHAREST ON AUGUST 31 AND
HIS REQUEST TO MEET WITH BEWT ON AUGUST 29 (FOLLOWING
INTERAGENCY MEETING) HAVE PROMPTED US TO SEND AGENDA AND
COMMENTS TO EMBASSY NOW. IN THIS WAY WE HOPE TO RECEIVE
YOUR COMMENTS AND ANY REMAINING THOUGHTS OF INTERAGENCY
GROUP ON MONDAY IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO GIVE FODOR OUR
DRAFT AGENDA AND EXPLANATION OF AGENDA TOPICS (BEING
TRANSMITTED TODAY BY SEPTTEL) LATE MONDAY AFTERNOON.
ACTION REQUESTED: WE REQUEST EMBASSY RESPONSE TO PROPOSED
AGENDA AND EXPLANATION OF AGENDA TOPICS BY NOON
WASHINGTON TIME ON AUGUST 29. CHRISTOPHER

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